

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-02 OMB-01 SY-04 OPR-02 SCS-03

PER-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 AID-20 PC-10 DRC-01 /067 W

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FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2701

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 404

E.O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS: PINS, CASC, ET

SUBJ: TENNECO SEVEN

REF : ASMARA 402

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A PRESS RELEASE DEVELOPED BY REPS OF CONGEN, TENNECO, AND AMERICAN EVANGELICAL MISSION. IT IS REQUESTED THAT THIS RELEASE BE GIVEN WIDEST DISSEMINATION POSSIBLE ASAP. THIS IS PART OF A SIDE WAR CAMPAIGN BEING WAGED AGAINST ELF AND IF NECESSARY AGAINST IEG. WILSON HAS REQUESTED THAT THE STATEMENT BE PASSED TO BOGAN FOR DISSEMINATION. USIS ASMARA IS PREPARING STORY ON PUBLIC REACTION OF CLOSING OF HOSPITALS.

2. PRESS RELEASE FOLLOWS :

QUOTE CONCERN OVER THE MURDER OF ONE MISSIONARY NURSE, THE KIDNAP OF ANOTHER AMERICAN MISSIONARY NURSE AND THE CANADIAN PILOT AND THE HOLDING OF FIVE HOSTAGES FOR OVER NINE WEEKS, HAS CAUSED SUCH GREAT CONCERN AMONG THE VARIOUS MISSIONARY GROUPS OVER THE SAFETY OF THEIR PERSONNEL THAT TWO MORE MISSIONARY HOSPITAL PROJECTS IN ERITREA PROVINCE HAVE BEEN CLOSED.

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THE MISSION HOSPITAL IN GHINDA WAS CLOSED ON MAY 28TH

AND ON THE SAME DAY THE SUDAN INTERIOR MISSION (SIM) CLINIC AND A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AT AFABED WAS ALSO CLOSED. THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AT AFABED INCLUDED THE BUILDING OF A DAM, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, WELL DRILLING, AND SCHOOLS FOR THE PEOPLE.

IT WAS LEARNED TODAY THAT A HOSPITAL AT HAICOTA NEAR TESSENEI, WHICH WAS OPERATED BY THE MIDDLE EAST GENERAL MISSIONS, AS WELL AS A CLINIC IN MASSAWA WHICH WAS OPERATED BY THE RED SEA MISSION, HAVE ALSO BEEN CLOSED AS A RESULT OF THE MURDER, KIDNAPPINGS AND FEAR FOR THE SAFETY OF THEIR PERSONNEL.

A RELIABLE SOURCE ADVISES NO CONSIDERATION FOR THE RE-OPENING OF THE ABOVE INSTALLATIONS WILL BE GIVEN UNTIL ALL THE HOSTAGES, BOTH AMERICANS AND CANADIANS ARE RELEASED SAFELY AND QUICKLY BY THE ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT. ALSO THERE MUST BE A GUARANTEE FOR THE FUTURE SAFETY OF ALL FOREIGN PERSONNEL. UNQUOTE.  
PERRY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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